

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 MADRID 001620

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [SP](#) [PSOE](#)

SUBJECT: SPAIN BIOS ON NEW FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
DEFENSE OFFICIALS

1. (U) Summary: This is the second of a three part series on new top-level officials in the Spanish government. Biographical information on officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Defense is provided. See septels for bios on the Office of the President, and Ministries of the Presidency, Defense, Interior and Justice. End Summary.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2. (SBU) The following officials have been named to senior MFA positions. (Note: GOS secretaries of state are the rough equivalent of USG under secretaries. GOS under secretaries are roughly

SIPDIS
assistant secretary equivalents. GOS directors
general are roughly PDAS equivalents. End Note)

(A) BERNARDINO LEON GROSS - Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Latin America (He will essentially serve as the number two in the MFA, in the way that Ramon Gil Casares did in the previous government)

Bernardino Leon was born in Mlaga in 1964. He has a degree in law from the University of Madrid, and did post-graduate studies in international relations at King's College and the Sorbonne.

Leon joined the Spanish diplomatic corps in 1990. He was chief of cabinet for the president of the Quincentenary Commission and was involved in the organization of the first Latin American Summits.

He was charge de affaires in Monrovia and consul general in Algeria (1992-95). In 1995 he was appointed minister counselor in Athens in charge of European and Balkan affairs.

Later, Leon joined Miguel Angel Moratinos, Spain's former envoy to the Middle East and current Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the European Union. Since September 2001 he has been the director of the Foundation of Three Cultures. This Foundation studies relations between traditional Jewish, Arab, and Christian communities in Spain.

Leon speaks excellent English.

(B) ALBERTO NAVARRO GONZALEZ - Secretary of State for the European Union

Navarro was born March 1955 in Santa Cruz de Tenerife. He holds a degree in law. He entered the diplomatic service in April 1980. He has served in Honduras, Czechoslovakia, and in the Spain's Mission to the European Community (EC). He served as deputy director general for the coordination of EC Cooperation Programs, director general of EC Institutional and Judicial Coordination, and director general/chief of cabinet for the minister of foreign affairs. In 1997, Navarro became director of the Department for the Humanitarian Aid of the European Community (ECHO). Later, he was Javier Solana's chief of cabinet. Since September 2003, Navarro has served as ambassador and chief of the European Commission delegation in Brazil.

(C) LOUIS CALVO MERINO - Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

Calvo, born in 1948 in Malaga, holds a degree in law, philosophy, and letters. He entered the diplomatic corps in 1980. Calvo has been secretary general of the Institute of Latin

SIPDIS

American Cooperation, consul general in Havana, deputy director general of legislative procedures in the State Secretariat for the Relations with Spanish Parliament. In 1991, he was named ambassador to Kenya. In May 1994, he served as director general of Conscientious Objection in the Ministry of Justice and Interior. Later he served as assistant permanent representative for international organizations in Vienna and consul general in Frankfurt. Calvo last served as inspector general of services for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(D) JAVIER DE SANCHO VELAZQUEZ - Director of the Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

De Sancho, born May 1964 in Seville, holds a degree in political science and sociology from the Complutense University of Madrid, and a master's degree in International Relations from Universite Libre of Brussels.

De Sancho has served in the Office of the Director General for Environment of the European Commission. He was a member the European Parliament. He also served in the European Union's liaison office to United Nation in New York. He has been a personal advisor to Miguel Angel Moratinos when he was the EU's special representative for the Middle East Peace Process. De Sancho has also worked in the office of the Secretary General of the EU Council of Ministers.

SIPDIS

(E) JUAN ANTONIO YANEZ-BARNUEVO - Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Yan Yanez-Barnuevo was born in 1942 in Seville. He holds a degree in law from the Complutense University of Madrid. He entered the diplomatic service in 1968. Yanez-Barnuevo served in Spain's diplomatic mission to the United Nations and the Council of Europe. He was director of the International Department of the Cabinet of the President of the Government. In 1991, Yanez-Barnuevo served as Spain's Ambassador Permanent Representative to the United Nations. In 1996, Yanez-Barnuevo was named assistant director of the Spain's Diplomatic School. In 1998, he was named ambassador and head of the Spanish delegation in the Diplomatic Conference of the United Nations for the creation of the International Criminal Court. Later, Yanez-Barnuevo signed on Spain's behalf the Statute of Rome that established the International Criminal Court. Since August 2002 Yanez-Barnuevo has been chief of the Office of the International Legal Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Yanez-Barnuevo is married and has one son.

(F) INIGO DE PALACIO ESPANA - Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations

De Palacio was born June 1958 in Madrid. He holds a degree in law from the Complutense University of Madrid and entered the diplomatic corps in 1981. He has served in Bolivia and Morocco. He served as deputy director Land, Air, and Cooperation in the Office of the Director General of International Economic Relations, consul general in Porto Alegre, and advisor at Spain's Permanent Mission to United Nations in Geneva. His last post was deputy director general of United Nations of the Coordination Unit for Spain's Participation in the UN Security Council.

Ministry of Defense

13. (SBU) The following are new officials in the Ministry of Defense:

(A) FRANCISCO PARDO PIQUERAS - Secretary of State of Defense. (He replaces Fernando Diez-Moreno)

Born in Albacete in 1962, Pardo holds a degree in law from the University of Murcia and a master's degree in European Community law from the University of Castile-La Mancha.

He was chief of cabinet for the Council on Agriculture and director general of institutional

relations for the Office of the President of Castile-La Mancha. He was secretary of the Joint Commission (between the national government and Castile-La Mancha) and a member of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union. In 1999, Pardo became cabinet director of the president of the government of Castile-La Mancha and, later, of the presidency. Since July 2003, Pardo has served as advisor to the President of Castile-La Mancha. Pardo is married and has two children.

(B) JOSE ALBERTO SAIZ CORTES - Secretary of State for the Director of the National Center of Intelligence

Saiz was born the August 1953 in Cuenca. He is a civil engineer and career civil servant. In 1989, Saiz was assigned to the delegation of Albacete, where he served as chief of the department of natural resources.

He was president of the governing board of the Las Lagunes of Ruidera national park and director general of nature and environmental affairs for Ministry of Agriculture and Environment in Castile-La Mancha. Since July 2003, Saiz has served as regional minister on industry and labor. He does not speak English.

(C) FRANCISCO TORRENTE SANCHEZ - Secretary General for Defense Policy (replaces Javier Jimenez Ugarte)

Torrente was born in 1944 in Galicia. He graduated from the Naval War College and is an electronics specialist. He joined the Spanish navy in 1956 and became lieutenant junior grade (JG) in 1961. As lieutenant JG and lieutenant, Torrente served on board of the destroyers "Escano" and "Alava," frigate "Vicente Yanez Pinzon," and the amphibious ship "Castilla." In 1972-1973, Torrente was commanding officer of the minesweeper "Turia." He was promoted to lieutenant in 1975 and served as chief of operations, fleet escort command, and was commanding officer of the corvette "Diana" in 1982-1983. In 1983, Torrente was promoted to commander and was appointed commanding officer of the frigate "Balears" from 1987-1998. He became a captain in 1989. Among his shore assignments, Torrente was professor of electronics at the Naval Academy, professor of tactics at the Naval War College, chief of logistics planning section of the naval staff, and deputy director for manpower planning and procurement at the Ministry of Defense. In 1992, Torrente was promoted to rear admiral and the navy's deputy director for maintenance. In 1994, he was appointed director of the military cabinet of the Ministry of Defense. He became vice-admiral in 1995. In 1997, Torrente was promoted to admiral and appointed director of defense policy. On December 15, 2000, Torrente was given his fourth star and appointed chief of naval staff.

Torrente has been awarded the following national decorations: One Military Merit Cross, four Navel Merit Crosses, one Aeronautic Merit Cross, Grand Cross of St. Hermengelido, Military Merit Grand Cross and the Naval Merit Grand Cross.

He has also been awarded the following foreign decorations: U.S. Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander), French Legion of Honor (Degree of Commander), Turkish Armed Forces Legion of Merit, and the Uruguayan Honor to Naval Merit (Grand Medal).

Admiral Torrente is married and has five children.

(D) JUSTO TOMAS ZAMBRANA PINEDA - Under Secretary of Defense

Born March 1947, Zambrana holds a degree in economic science from the University of Madrid and a degree in philosophy and letters from the University of Paris. He was secretary general of the General Worker's Union (UGT) Executive Federation of Public Service and its Co-federal Executive Committee on Institutional Action. He served as a national deputy for the Socialist Party for Cuenca in the second, third, and fourth legislatures. In 1991, Zambrana was named secretary of state for the public administration.

SIPDIS

In 1995, he became advisor on education and culture for Castile-La Mancha. Later, he was advisor on public works. Since April 2001, Zambrana has served as president of the Economic and Social Council of Castile-La Mancha. Zambrana is married with two children.

(D) Jose Luis Fernandez Pena - Director General of Communications

Born 1963 in Madrid, Fernandez holds a degree in information sciences from the Complutense University of Madrid. He worked in Radio Intercontinental, Radio Exterior de Espana, and the delegation of EFE Agency in Castile-La Mancha. He was also a correspondent for El Pais in Toledo. In 1990, Fernandez became information chief of Cadena Ser in Castile-La Mancha. In 1992, when his office became a part of the Press Office of the Presidency, Fernandez became press chief. Since 1999, Fernandez has been director general of communications for the government of Castile-La Mancha.

Argyros